

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/893,598

Examiner

Ke Xiao

Applicant(s)

UCHIYAMA, YOSHINORI

Art Unit

2629

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the after final amendment filed on May 24th, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 6-14, 18, 19 and 22.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 6-14, 18, 19 and 22 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding independent **Claims 6, 11 and 18**, prior art fails to show

"a control circuit including a latch circuit, said control circuit connected with at least one of said plurality of register circuits as a specific register circuit and said plurality of differential input circuits,

wherein said specific register circuit executes a predetermined operation using a first signal outputted from a corresponding one of said plurality of differential input circuits and outputs a second signal to said latch circuit when the operation ends, and

said control circuit activates said plurality of differential input circuits in response to a third signal to operate and stops the operations of said plurality of differential input circuits in response to said second signal".

The closest art is in the applicant's admitted prior art, which does not show a control circuit as claimed.

Regarding independent **Claim 22**, prior art fails to show

"a latch circuit connected with the input terminal and said flip-flop circuit,
wherein:

said one register circuit of the predetermined states carries out a predetermined operation by using a first output signal outputted from one of said plurality of differential input circuit corresponding to said one register circuit, and outputs a second output signal to said flip-flop circuit after the predetermined operation is ended,

said flip-flop circuit latches said second output signal, and

said latch circuit starts said plurality of differential input circuits in response to an input signal from said input terminal, and stops operations of said plurality of differential input circuits in response to said second output signal latched by said flip-flop circuit".

latched by the flip flop circuit".

The closest art is the applicant's admitted prior art, which does not show a latch circuit as claimed.

Regarding **Claims 7-10**, they are dependent either directly or indirectly from allowable Claim 6.

Regarding **Claims 12-14**, they are dependent either directly or indirectly from allowable Claim 11.

Regarding **Claim 19**, it is dependent directly from allowable claim 18.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ke Xiao whose telephone number is (571) 272-7776. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:30AM to 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sumati Lefkowitz can be reached on (571) 272-3638. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

October 24th, 2006 - kx -


SUMATI LEFKOWITZ
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER